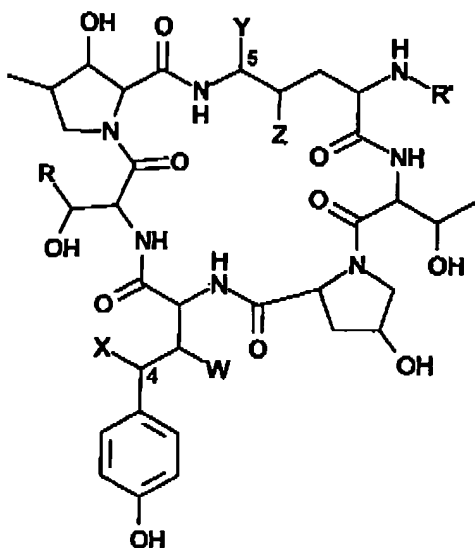


What is claimed is:

1. A process for the conversion of echinocandin class of peptides of the formula I

5



(I)

wherein W, X, Y, Z, R and R' are as defined herein below :

		<u>W</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Z</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>R'</u>
10	1. Echinocandin B	OH	OH	OH	OH	CH ₃	Linoleoyl
	2. Pneumocandin A ₀	OH	OH	OH	OH	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	10,12-Dimethyl- myristoyl
	3. Pneumocandin A ₁	H	OH	OH	OH	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	"
15	4. Pneumocandin A ₂	OH	OH	H	H	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	"
	5. Pneumocandin B ₀	OH	OH	OH	OH	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	"
	6. Pneumocandin B ₂	OH	OH	H	H	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	"
	7. Pneumocandin C ₀	OH	OH	OH	OH	CH ₂ -CO-NH ₂	"
20	8. Mulundocandin	OH	OH	OH	OH	H	12-Methyl- tetradecanoyl

to their C4-homotyrosine monodeoxy analogues of the formula I, wherein W, X, Y, Z, R and R' are as defined herein below

- | | | <u>W</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Y</u> | <u>Z</u> | <u>R</u> | <u>R'</u> |
|----|---|----------|----------|---|----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Deoxyechinocandin B
(Echinocandin C) | OH | H | OHOH | | CH ₃ | Linoleoyl |
| 5 | 2. Deoxypneumocandin A ₀ OH | | H | OHOHCH ₂ -CO-NH ₂ | | | 10,12-Dimethyl-
myristoyl |
| | 3. Deoxypneumocandin A ₁ H | | H | OHOHCH ₂ -CONH ₂ | | " | |
| | 4. Deoxypneumocandin A ₂ OH | | H | H | H | CH ₂ -CONH ₂ | " |
| | 5. Deoxypneumocandin B ₀ OH | | H | OHOHCH ₂ -CONH ₂ | | " | |
| 10 | 6. Deoxypneumocandin B ₂ OH | | H | H | H | CH ₂ -CONH ₂ | " |
| | 7. Deoxypneumocandin C ₀ OH | | H | OHOHCH ₂ -CONH ₂ | | " | |
| | 8. Deoxymulundocandin | OH | H | OHOH | H | | 12-Methyl tetra-
decanoyl |
- 15 which consists of a single step selective reduction of C4-htyr (homotyrosine) hydroxyl group of echinocandins to their monodeoxy analogues under neutral conditions without prior protection / deprotection of the equally facile C5-Orn (ornithine) hydroxyl group and purification of the monodeoxy compound from the crude reaction mixture.
- 20 2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein Mulundocandin is converted to Deoxymulundocandin.
3. A process as claimed in claims 1 or 2, wherein the reduction reaction is carried out by hydrogenolysis with Raney nickel in ethanol at pH 7 and room temperature.
- 25 4. A process as claimed in claims 1 to 3, wherein the hydrogenolysis is carried out in the ratio of 6.8 ml of Raney nickel per millimole of mulundocandin.